

# ANNUAL REPORT

YORK COUNTY HEAD START



1490 Government Rd Williamsburg, VA 23185



# HEAD START

York County Head Start has supported children's early learning and development since 1970.

York County Head Start provides a comprehensive child and family development program for low-income children three to five years of age and their families. The goal of the program is to improve child and family outcomes by providing comprehensive services that support children's development and increases family functioning. Each enrolled child and their family receive health, nutrition, education, mental health, and family support services that meet their individualized needs.





Amber Richey
York County Children & Family Services
Manager/
Head Start Director

#### A Message to Our Community

2017-2018 school year was an exciting year for York County Head Start. We began the year preparing for the final year of our Head Start grant from the Administration for Children & Families ,Office of Head Start (OHS). Based on ending Program Year 5 (PY05) and preparing to enter Program Year 1 (PY1), the program did not have an Office of Head Start monitoring review. However, the program did have an onsite monitoring review by the United Stated Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) in July 2018. The audit review was conducted, and the results indicated no deficiencies.

This program year, York County Head Start had a number of significant accomplishments. Among our accomplishments included: expanding our participation in the Peninsula Food Bank's Pantry/ Backpack Program; hosting our First Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon; and increasing the safety and security of our centers by installing surveillance technology at all of our locations. Over the course of the next five years, York County Head Start will be expanding it's community partnerships and implementing health initiatives in each of our center-based programs with the goal of helping children to increase their physical activity and water intake all necessary for a healthy lifestyle and optimal functioning.

We've come a long way in a year and on behalf of our staff we extend a sincere thank you to all of our partners including our parents, community partners, Policy Council, Board of Supervisors, Sheila Noll (Board of Supervisors Chairperson), and OHS who all worked tirelessly to ensure that York County Head Start programs are of the highest quality for the children and families we serve.

#### County of York Demographics

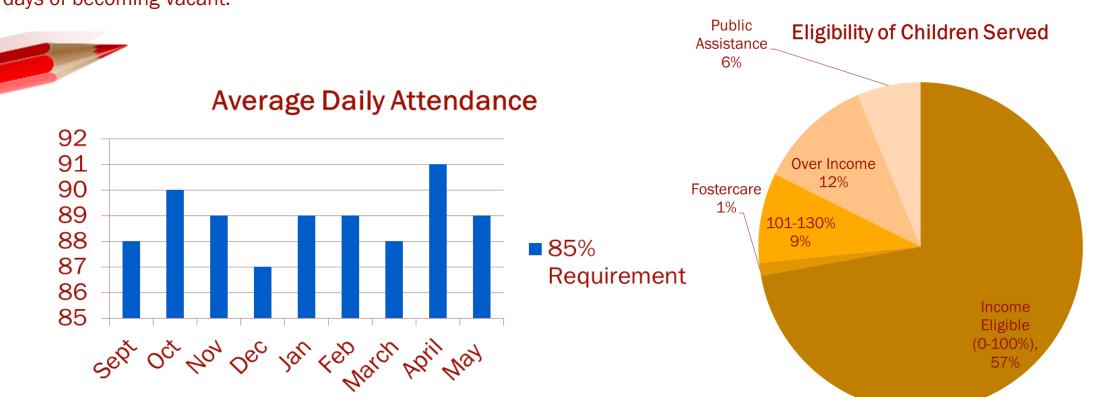
York County is home to approximately 67,976 people in 2017 and ranks 7th in population among the state's 95 counties. Approximately 5% of the 67,976 people in York County are made up of children under the age of 5. The unemployment rate has increased in York County; however, it still remains the lowest unemployment rates (3.9%) in the metropolitan area and consistently trails the regional and national rates (4.8%). In the county, 5.3 % of its residents are living in poverty with 6.8% of children under the age of six living in poverty, compared to 12.7 % in the state of Virginia. In 2017, 2,923 households in York County were receiving SNAP (Food Stamps) which is considerable higher than the 1,990 reported in 2016.

The York County community assessment shows that there is a growing need for early childhood and human services to meet the needs of children and families living in the County. As an expert in delivering high-quality early childhood education and fully integrated family services, York County Head Start incorporates staff expertise, community partners, and family engagement to prepare children in the program for Kindergarten and a lifetime of learning.

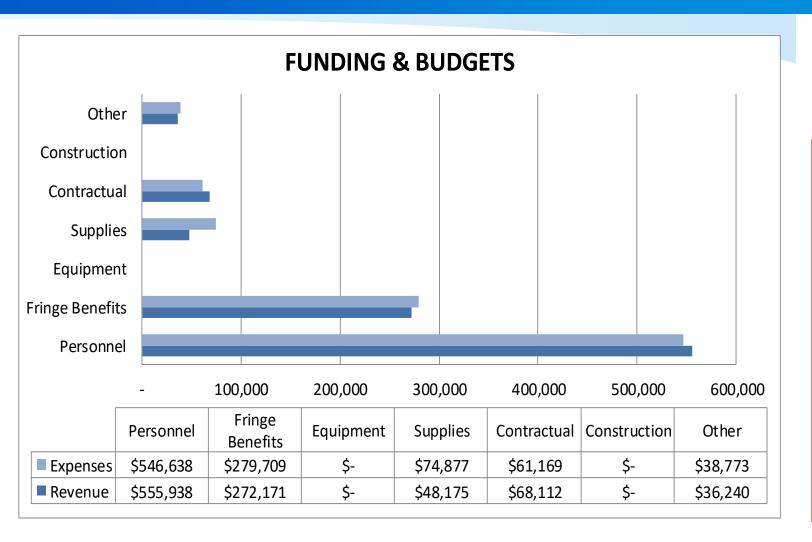
York County Head Start provides services to 117 preschool children ages 3-5 in three facilities strategically located in the County of York.

- Two full-day center-based programs (Bethel Manor Head Start and Yorktown Elementary Head Start) that serves children five days per week, 6.5 hours per day, 161 days per year.
- One half-day center-based program (Griffin-Yeates Center) that serves children five days per week, 4.5 hours per day, 161 days per year.

In 2017-2018, the program's cumulative enrollment totaled 127children. The number is cumulative due to enrollment slots becoming vacant throughout the year and then being filled by another child in need of services. York County Head Start maintained full enrollment monthly throughout the 2017-2018 school year, and all vacancies were filled within 30 days of becoming vacant.



## FY 18 Funding & Budgets July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018



#### The Mission of York County's Division of Children and Family Services

To develop partnerships that promote quality opportunities for children's educational readiness at all levels of ability and to foster success for families and staff.

	REVENUES FY18	EXPENSES FY18	BUDGET FY19
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD	\$980,636	\$1,001,166	\$1,005,715
TOTAL NON-FEDERAL SHARE	\$245,159	\$250,292	\$251,429
TOTAL	\$1,225,795	\$1,251,458	\$1,257,144
FEDERAL BALANCE		\$0	
TOTAL BALANCE (Federal + Non-federal)	-	(\$25,663)	-

# Proposed FY 19 Budget July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019

BUDGET	REVENUES
PERSONNEL	\$770,719
FRINGE BENEFITS	\$321,713
EQUIPMENT	<b>\$</b> 0
SUPPLIES	\$49,906
CONTRACTUAL	\$73,762
CONSTRUCTION	\$0
OTHER	\$41,044
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD	\$1,005,715
TOTAL NON-FEDERAL SHARE	\$251,429
TOTAL	\$1,257,144

York County Head Start is the recipient of a direct Head Start grant from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start. York County has a five-year grant (7/1/2018–6/30/2023). For Program Year 01 (PY01) the annual funding was for \$1,257,144 to serve 117 children.

York County Head Start budget for FY19 is developed and implemented to support the goals and activities outlined in program plans. Both the Policy Council and the Board of Supervisors were involved in the development of the budget and will receive monthly statements of revenue and expense for review and input.

<u>Financial Audit</u>: As required by the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, the Head Start program is audited to an opinion on York County's compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants governing the program, as well as the internal controls over compliance FY2017, Cherry Bekaert LLP issued an unqualified opinion on compliance for major programs, found no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal controls over financial reporting. In addition, there were no findings or questions regarding costs for major federal awards, including the Head Start program. A copy of the independent audit may be found at

https://www.yorkcounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6530/FY2017-Comprehensive-Annual-Financial-Report?bidId=



#### School Readiness

During the 2017-2018 program year, York County Head Start used Teaching Strategies Gold by Creative Curriculum. Teaching Strategies Gold establishes a framework of child development knowledge, combined with best practices, teacher involvement and family participation to provide high quality early childhood experiences that fosters school readiness. The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is based on 38 learning objectives for development and learning, which are fully aligned with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework as well as Virginia Early Learning and Development Standards. Our current program and curriculum plans specify goals, experiences, roles of teacher, and roles of family along with materials that reflect best practice, research, and sound childhood theory.

YC Head Start programs are designed to provide all children with a safe, nurturing, enjoyable and secure learning environment. The varied experiences provided by each program support the continuum of each child's intellectual, social and emotional growth and development. The skilled teaching staff members recognize parents as their children's primary educators, and provide opportunities for families to play an active role in supporting their children's learning both in Head Start and at home. All learning experiences are designed to be developmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive. Children with disabilities are given individualized services and supports that include them in the classroom and assist them in accomplishing goals outlined on their Individual Education Plan (IEP).

School Readiness Plan: York County Head Start has created a School Readiness Plan, with the help from parents and Education Review Committee members, that outlines the components necessary to prepare children and families for entry into Kindergarten. This plan outlines steps in each component area that build on school readiness skills needed for children and their families. These components consist of:

- Education Review Team
- School Readiness Goals
- ☐ High Quality Teaching and Learning This component is comprised of the following four areas:
  - Engaging Interactions and Environments
  - Research-based Curricula and Teaching Practice
  - Ongoing Assessment of Child Progress
  - Highly Individualized Teaching and Learning
- ☐ Staff Development
- ☐ Parent, Family, and Community Engagement
- Evaluating Child Outcomes
- ☐ Active and Ongoing Communication with Parents/Guardians

#### School Readiness Goals

School Readiness (SR) is a partnership between families, communities, and schools to provide the necessary support, services and environment to ensure all children begin kindergarten ready and eager to learn. The focus of a SR plan is to outline a set of School Readiness Goals for all children based upon the program curriculum and assessment, Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, Virginia Early Leaning and Development Standards, and feedback from stakeholders; including the local school district.

York County Head Start program has created the following School Readiness Goals based on program data and information:

**Goal #1:** York County Head Start children will demonstrate the ability to express themselves through engaging with other peers and adults.

**Goal #2:** York County Head Start children will demonstrate healthy relationships and interactions with adults and peers and demonstrate a healthy range of emotional expression. Children will feel comfortable in school, trust their new environment, make new friends, and feel they are part of a group.

Goal #3: York County Head Start children will demonstrate the ability to use language to engage in communication, conversations and storytelling.

**Goal #4:** York County Head Start children will notice and discriminate rhyme and demonstrate awareness that language can be broken into words, syllables and smaller pieces of sound.

**Goal #5:** York County Head Start children will demonstrate alphabet knowledge through upper case and lower case letter recognition, letter sounds and early writing skills. Increase their ability to write recognizable letters, especially those in first name, and use letters that represent sounds.

**Goal #6:** York County Head Start children will understand beginning math skills including spatial relationships, patterns and using math concepts to gather information in daily routines.

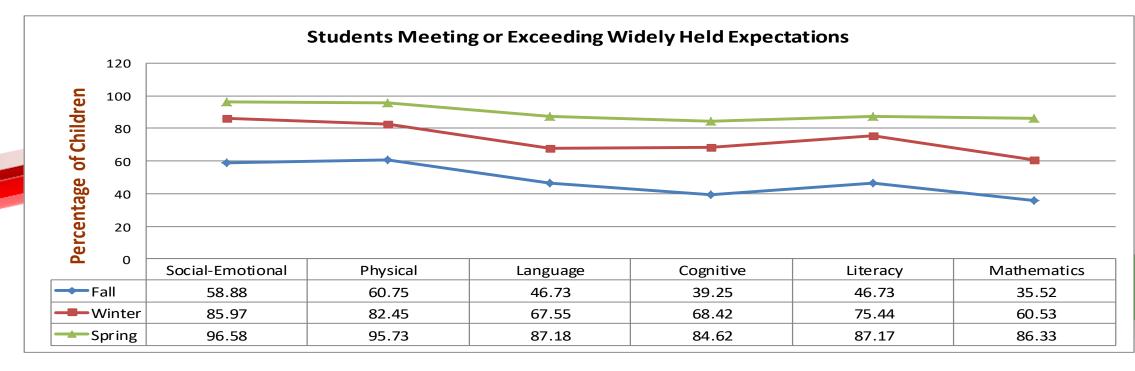
**Goal #7:** York County Head Start children will increase ability to identity shapes, their properties, and how objects are related to one another.

**Goal #8:** York County Head Start children will increase physical development in the area of large muscles for movement, navigation, and balance and demonstrate fine-motor strength and coordination to manipulate.

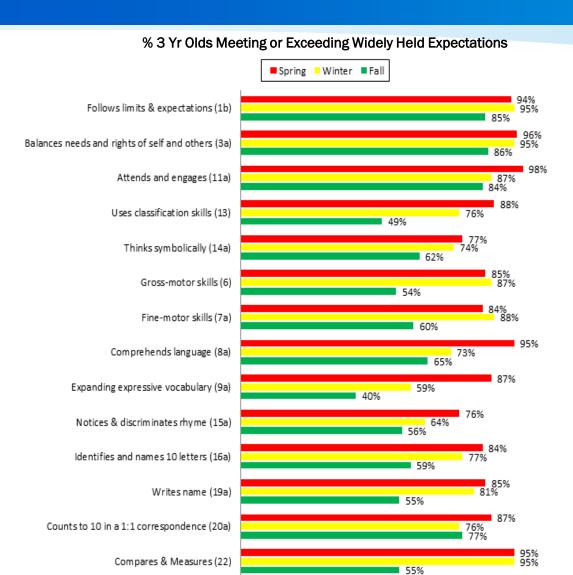
Goal #9: York County Head Start families will be educated on preventive health care and demonstrate an understanding of healthy and safe habits.

# Child Outcomes

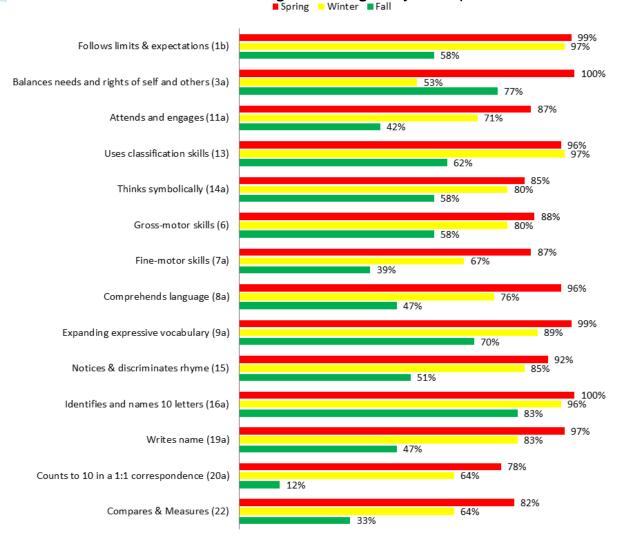
The overall program goal for the 2017-18 program year, was for 85% of the children to be meeting or exceeding the widely held expectations (Meeting or exceeding the color band range for their age) set by the Teaching Strategies Gold assessment tool. Below shows an analysis of the percentage of children that met or exceeded the widely held expectations for the three checkpoints. Based on the outcomes of aggregated spring data, York County Head Start children achieved the program's goal of having at least 85% of children meet or exceed the widely held expectations in the areas of social-emotional, physical, language, literacy, and mathematics. York County barely missed the goal in the area of cognition by .38% based on 84.62% of children meeting or exceeding the widely held expectations in this area. The areas of social-emotional and physical development were the highest. There were 96.58% of children who met or exceeded the widely held expectations in the area of physical development.



#### Child Outcomes Program Wide 2017-2018 % of Children Meeting or Exceeding Widely Held Expectations



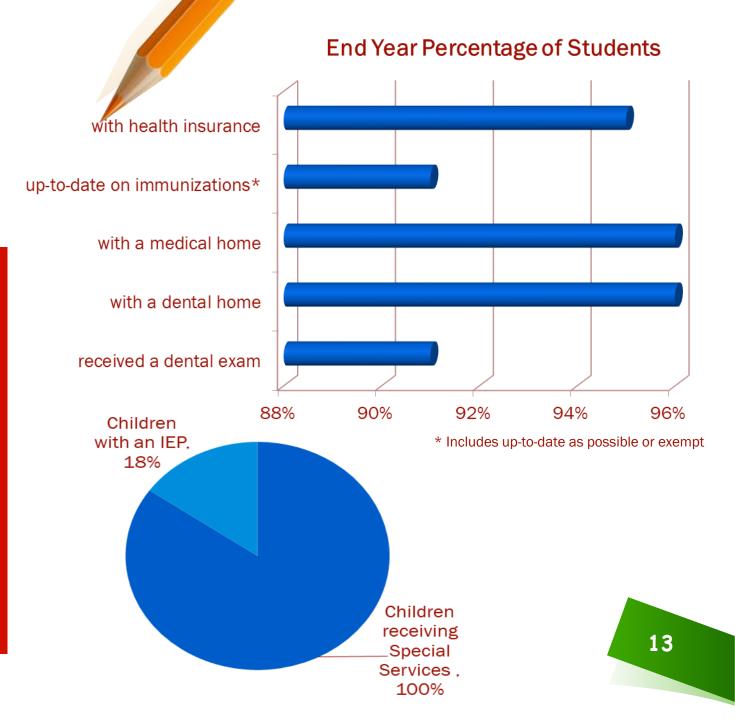




# Children Health Services

York County Head Start strives to prepare children for school and life through the provision of comprehensive services that support their health, wellness, and physical development. Health Services provided by YC Head Start take into account the individual health needs of each child.

For 2017-2018, the program coordinated and provided health and developmental screenings, nutritious meals, oral health and mental health supports for students while connecting their families with needed medical, dental, and mental health services for their child. This year, the program served 22 children with an IEP who received the necessary assistance, accommodations, and/or therapies needed to be successful.

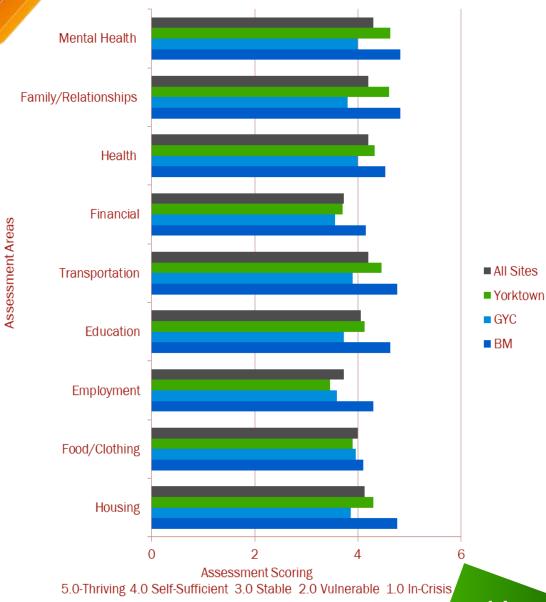


### 2017-2018 Family Outcomes

York County Head Start staff used the Parent, Family, & Community Engagement Framework as a tool to address the challenges and successes for individual families as they partnered with families to work towards achieving goals set with families through the Family Partnership Agreement process. York County Head Start collects, analyzes, and aggregates family outcomes data to identify patterns, trends, and needs for families. Additionally, the program uses this data to identify opportunities to improve services across program areas in order to focus on the strengths of families and to meet the needs of families and the community.

To obtain and evaluate family outcomes data each school year, each family is assessed utilizing the Family Needs Assessment three times a year (e.g. Preliminary, Midyear, and end of Year). The family outcomes data for the 2017-2018 school year included the assessment information for 106 YC Head Start families who completed at least two Family Needs Assessments. To determine the gains made, an analysis was completed to calculate the changes in the needs of enrolled families from the first assessment to the most recent assessment.

The graph to the right shows an analysis of the 2017-2018 Family Outcomes data for York County Head Start. Based outcomes of the aggregated data, families enrolled in the York County program demonstrated that they maintained a level of stability (Level 3.0) across all family areas assessed during the 2017-2018 school year. The scoring in the 10 areas of need (e.g. Housing, Food/Clothing, Employment, Education, Transportation, Financial, Health, Family/Relationships, and Mental Health) consisted of 5.0-Thriving, 4.0-Self-Sufficiency, 3.0- Stable, 2.0- Vulnerable, and 1.0- In Crisis. The scores in the areas of health and mental health were the highest of all family needs areas. However, the areas of employment and financial were lowest for all three York County Head Start sites.





York County Head Start offers an array of family support services to assist parents in achieving the personal goals that they have for themselves and their family. In 2017-2018, parents were offered trainings in career and job readiness, money management, budgeting, couponing, health and wellness, cooking on a budget, literacy, safety, child abuse prevention, First Aid and CPR, and Kindergarten Readiness. Parents are always welcome in the classroom, and they are encouraged to be as active as possible in their child's education as well as in other aspects of the program. For instance, parents/guardians are invited to partner with us at Parent/Teacher Conferences, Home Visits, Policy Council Meetings, Education Review Committee, Male Involvement Activities, Health Advisory Committee, and other Volunteer Opportunities.

York County Head Start families made strides in improving identified areas of need for their family this school year. In analyzing the gains that families made from the first assessment to the most recent assessment, it showed that enrolled families made the highest gains in the areas of food/clothing and employment. The lowest areas showing no gain for all sites were in the areas of need relating to family/relationships ( $\nabla$  0) and mental health ( $\nabla$ .1). In addition to these two areas of need, Bethel Manor also showed a negative gain of  $\nabla$ .2 in the area of transportation and Griffin-Yeates also showed a negative gain in the area of health which was  $\nabla$ .1. The average needs with the highest level of gain were in the areas of employment ( $\Delta$ .5), food/clothing ( $\Delta$ .4), and financial ( $\Delta$ .4). For the three Head Start locations, the total average overall gain in all areas of needs assessed were: Griffin-Yeates  $\Delta$ 1.1; Bethel Manor Head Start  $\Delta$ 2.0; and Yorktown Head Start  $\Delta$ 2.6. The total average gain in all assessed areas of need for York County Head Start families was  $\Delta$ 1.6.

#### 2017-2018 Site Totals of Average Scores



#### 2017-2018 Family Outcomes Gains



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Note: A copy of the complete Head Start Federal Review may be obtained from the Head Start Office at the Griffin-Yeates Center, 1490 Government Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185, or can be viewed on line at http://www.yorkcounty.gov/557/About-the-Division